

NIT-377

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

K. SERIZAWA

Confirmation No. 5615

Serial No. 10/607,027

Group Art Unit: 2189

Filed: June 27, 2003

Examiner: Thanh Duc Vo

For: METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM FOR ALLOCATING
STORAGE AREA TO VIRTUAL VOLUME

Customer No.: 24956

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)
UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

MAIL STOP: ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

00/10/2006 JADD01 00000036 10607027

02 FC:1806

180.00 0P

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form(s) PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed for each foreign patent, for each publication or portion thereof that caused it to be listed, and for each pending unpublished U.S. application or portion thereof that caused it to be listed. No copy of a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication is needed unless required by the PTO. A copy of a document is also not needed when previously submitted or previously cited by the PTO in a prior application to which the present application claims a benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

4. The undersigned hereby states:

☒ (b) that no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

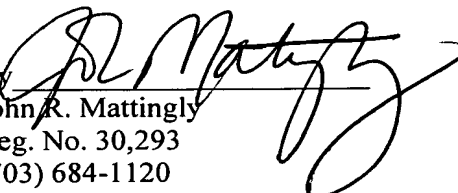
5. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

6. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the following document(s) because each is either in the English language, discussed in the present Specification, or its relevance is as stated in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

7. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
John R. Mattingly
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JRM/so

Date: August 17, 2006

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Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. NIT-377		SERIAL NO. 10/607,027		
LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT K. SERIZAWA				
				FILING DATE June 27, 2003		GROUP 2189		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
* EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)	
	AA	6,857,059 B2	02/15/2005	Karpoff et al.				
	AB	6,836,819 B2	12/28/2004	Kano et al.				
	AC	2002/00265 58 A1	02/28/2002	Reuter et al.				
	AD	60/261,140	01/11/2001	Karpoff				
	AE	60/209,326	06/02/2000	Bean et al.				
	AF	60/209,109	06/02/2000	Wrenn et al.				
	AG							
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AM						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AN						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)								
	AR							
	AS							
	AT							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.